Serial No. 10/018,125 Group Art Unit: 3673

Listing of Claims

- 1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system for a section of a submarine elongate structure, comprising an end restraint at each end of the section of the elongate structure, each end restraint being adapted to be secured to the elongate structure to transfer axial tension generated by a lateral movement of the elongate structure to the seabed or ground on which the end restraint is installed, each restraint comprising a pair of restraint faces spaced apart to receive a length of the elongate structure, each face being configured to operate along and control curvature of the length of the elongate structure during lateral movement thereof, each face providing for lateral movement of the length of the elongate structure within the restraint.
- 2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system according to claim 1 wherein at least one intermediate restraint is provided between the two end restraints for limiting lateral movement of the structure at the location of the intermediate restraint.
- 3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system according to claim 1 wherein each restraint face is curved in a direction along the length of the elongate structure when received therebetween.
- 4. (CANCELED)
- 5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system according to claim 1 wherein each restraint face comprises a discontinuous face defined by a plurality of restraint zones disposed in the required configuration.
- 6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system according to claim 5 wherein each restraint zone is defined by a restraint column adapted to be embedded in the seabed or ground.
- 7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system according to claim 6 wherein the columns are connected one to the other to provide an integral restraint structure.

Serial No. 10/018,125 Group Art Unit: 3673

- 8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system for a section of a submarine elongate structure comprising an end restraint at each end of the section of the elongate structure and at least one intermediate restraint between the two end restraints, each end restraint being adapted to be secured to the elongate structure to transfer axial tension generated by lateral movement of the elongate structure to the seabed or ground on which the end restraint is installed, each restraint comprising a pair of restraint faces spaced apart to receive a length of the elongate structure, each face being configured to operate along and control curvature of the length of the elongate structure during lateral movement thereof, each face providing for lateral movement of the length of the elongate structure within the restraint.
- 9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A restraint device comprising a pair of restraint faces laterally spaced apart to receive a length of an elongate structure therebetween, each restraint face being configured to operate along and control curvature of the length of the elongate structure during lateral deflection thereof, each restraint face providing for lateral movement of the length of the elongate structure within the restraint device, each restraint face comprising a discontinuous face defined by a plurality of restraint zones.
- 10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A restraint device according to claim 9 wherein each restraint face is curved in a direction along the length of the elongate structure when received therebetween.

11. (CANCELED)

- 12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A restraint device according to claim 9 wherein each restraint device comprises a discontinuous face defined by a plurality of restraint zones disposed in the required configuration.
- 13. (ORIGINAL) A restraint device according to claim 12 wherein each restraint zone is defined by a restraint column adapted to be embedded in the seabed or ground.

Serial No. 10/018,125 Group Art Unit: 3673

14. (ORIGINAL) A restraint device according to claim 13 wherein the columns are connected one to the other to provide an integral restraint structure.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system according to claim 8 wherein each end restraint further comprises a collar structure adapted to be secured to the elongate structure and bear on the end restraint to transfer axial loading thereto.

16. (CANCELED)

17. (CANCELED)

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of stabilizing a submarine elongate structure comprising the steps of: anchoring two axially spaced apart sections of the elongate structure to the seabed or ground using end restraints, and installing one or more intermediate restraints between the two end restraints; each restraint presenting two restraint faces on opposed sides of the elongate structure, each restraint face being of a configuration for receiving a length of the elongate structure and limiting curvature of the elongate structure by operating along the length of the elongate structure, each restraint face providing for lateral movement of the elongate structure within the restraint.

19. (PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)

20. (PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)

21. (PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A stabilization system for a section of a submarine elongate structure, the stabilization system comprising: a restraint for limiting the lateral movement of the elongate structure; the restraint comprising two restraint means laterally spaced apart so as to be arranged to allow the [[pipeline]] elongate structure to extend therebetween; each of the restraint means being configured to allow lateral movement of the elongate structure proximate the restraint means, during which lateral movement the restraint means controls curvature of the elongate structure by impressing a characteristic curvature of the restraint means therealong:

Serial No. 10/018,125

Group Art Unit: 3673

each restraint means comprising a plurality of discrete restraint zones disposed so as to be spaced

along the elongate structure.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the

curvature impressed by each of the restraint means is substantially the same for a given lateral

movement of the elongate structure towards that restraint.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system as claimed in claim 22 wherein each

of the restraint means comprises a curved restraint face, the restraint face being curved in a

direction along the elongate structure, when received between the restraint means.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system as claimed in claim 22 wherein each

of the restraint means comprises a plurality of restraint zones disposed so as to be spaced along

the elongate structure.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A stabilization system as claimed in claim 25 wherein each

restraint zone is defined by a restraint column arranged to extend from the seabed or ground.

5